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# THE BAPTIST Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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## Golfer remembered at memorial service

By William H. Perkins Jr.  
Editor

The life of professional golfer and devout Christian Payne Stewart, killed in an October 25 plane crash that captivated the nation, was memorialized October 28 in the state where his first tournament win vaulted him to prominence in the golf world.

"I know Payne is with Jesus tonight because he put his faith in Christ and nothing else. He would want you to know that we can all know Jesus," said fellow professional golfer Brad Bryant, who along with his family regularly attended First Church, Orlando, Fla. with Stewart and his family.

Convention Board, for a memorial service on the evening of October 28 at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson.

The service was arranged by the managers of the Southern Farm Bureau Golf Classic at Annandale Country Club in Madison County, where the state's only Professional Golf Association (PGA) event was scheduled to begin shortly after the jet crashed.

Stewart burst upon the professional golf scene after winning the Mississippi tournament in 1982. The tourney was known then as the Magnolia Classic and was played in Hattiesburg.

He went on to win eleven other tournaments in his 21-year career, including the PGA championship in 1989 and a pair of U.S. Open championships in 1991 and 1999. He also represented the U.S. in five Ryder Cup Matches, most recently in September when the U.S. team rallied for a dramatic, come-from-behind victory over the European Team.

Bryant, his voice choked with emotion, told the memorial service crowd, "I'm going to see Payne again, because of what Jesus did 2000 years ago."

Quoting Rom. 8:18, which states, "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us (NIV)," Bryant — the son of a Baptist minister — said, "That glory is being realized by Payne."

"Take away all of Payne's victories, his money, his awards, and I will be happy to have my sons grow up to become the men that Payne came to be," he said.

Bean, another longtime friend of Stewart, spoke of how he watched Stewart mature not only as a golfer but as a Christian husband, father, and man.

"Golf was his job, but not the most important thing in his life. Anyone who knew him recognized that. This came to be possible only because he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior," Bean said.

Pausing several times during his remarks to regain his composure, Bean closed by describing Stewart as, "a man I greatly respected and will miss."

Futral spoke of a conversation he had with Stewart's pastor, former Mississippi pastor and former Southern Baptist Convention president Jim Henry, after the crash was reported.

Futral said he and Henry discussed how God had moved in Stewart's life in recent years.

Stewart recently donated \$500,000 to his church's Christian academy where his young children attend, Futral said, and then set out on a campaign that raised an additional \$1.2 for the academy.

"(Stewart) had come to understand a dimension of life that can't be found on the golf course. Our dreams have to be centered; Payne had done that."

"You and I had the privilege of seeing a man who achieved what anyone would want to achieve, and (who) found out there is more," Futral said.

"If you have a wife and children, reach out and hold on to those precious gifts," he exhorted the golfers.

The Mississippi tournament's October 29 round was canceled to allow participants



OFFERING SOLACE — Jim Futral (left), executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, talks with professional golfers Brad Bryant (right) and Andy Bean after the October 28 memorial service for Payne Stewart at Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. Bryant, Bean, and Stewart were close friends. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

to attend Stewart's funeral service in Orlando.

Investigators are continuing their study of the crash site and debris in an effort to pinpoint the cause of the accident.



The Stewarts: (from left) Payne, Chelsea, Aaron, and Tracey

Stewart was one of six people who died when their chartered Lear jet nose dived into a South Dakota pasture after a wandering, four-hour flight across the midsection of the country.

Military fighter jets dispatched to inspect the high-performance aircraft during its mysterious 1,400-mile journey reported the jet's windows were iced over with no one apparently at the controls.

Experts speculated that the twin-engine Lear 35 may have suffered a catastrophic loss of cabin pressure shortly after taking off from Orlando for the flight to Dallas. Depressurization would have resulted in unconsciousness and eventually death for the occupants.

Air traffic controllers reported that radio contact was lost after a final transmission from the aircraft as it passed over the Gainesville, Fla., area.

Bryant joined fellow golfing professional Andy Bean and Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist

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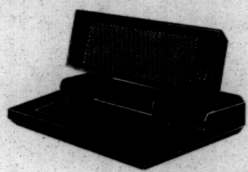
### Passing of the gavel



Kermit McGregor (left), pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, and newly-elected Mississippi Baptist Convention president, addresses messengers and guests October 27 at the close of the 1999 Mississippi Baptist Convention annual meeting at First Church, Jackson. Dean Register (right), pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, and outgoing two-term convention president, transferred the convention gavel to McGregor. For more information on the annual meeting, please turn to the special insert section in this issue. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)



## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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lication date. Advertising — two calendar  
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# It's tough being an editor around here

One of the responsibilities of The Baptist Record's editor (that would be me) is to write an opinion piece each week to fill this editorial slot. As most first-year journalism students know, an opinion piece in the editorial section of a newspaper is the ideal place to shine a bright light on controversial subjects and — hopefully — make suggestions on how to improve whatever is wrong.

Editors get pretty good at pointing out flaws in other people and organizations, and then humbly offering their own ideas on what to do to make things better. (Okay, maybe "humbly" should be removed from that last sentence.)

At any rate, it's difficult to come up with a grand editorial idea each week, and you Mississippi Baptists out there aren't making my job any easier.

For example, many Baptist state newspaper editors have a veritable mountain of material after their state conventions meet. There are fights over dwindling Cooperative Program budgets. There are bitter presidential elections that turn into grudge matches.

There are secret, pre-convention organizational meetings and complete slates of candidates months before the gavel drops. There are insulting references to those who hold different views from the group in power. There are manipulations by the groups in power to maintain their power, and manipulations by the groups out of power to gain power.

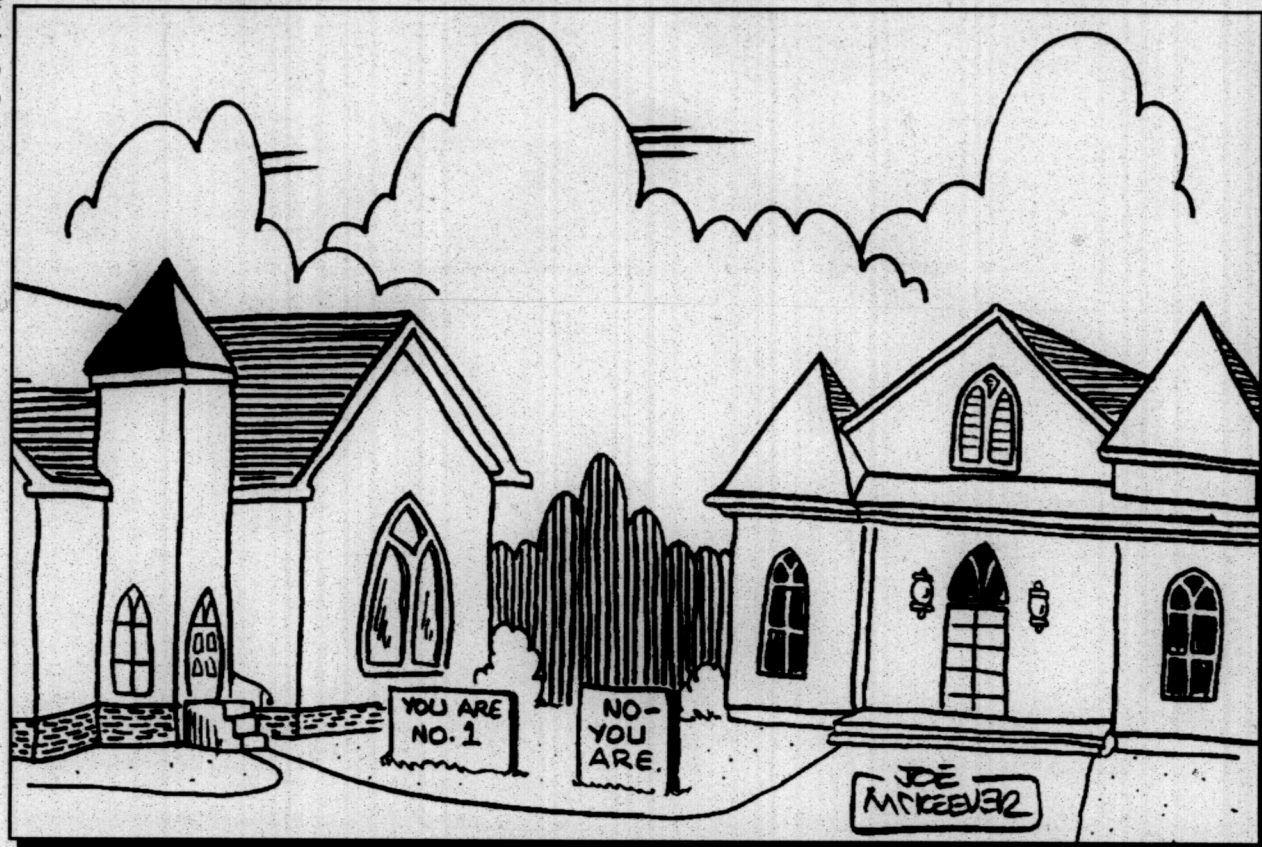
Not so in Mississippi. Again this year, Mississippi Baptists meeting October 26-27 at First Church, Jackson, expressed in one bold voice their commitment to fund another record-setting Cooperative Program budget for the year 2000. Not one dissenting vote on the budget was recorded. (For com-

plete convention coverage, see pages S-1 through S-4 in this issue.)

Even though this year marked an open presidential seat with the two-term retirement of Dean Register, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg, and even though the three highly-qualified candidates who were nominated all had passionate and committed supporters, Mississippi Baptists conducted themselves with electoral statesmanship and integrity of purpose.

Great. Not a single controversial editorial idea from the entire meeting, if one doesn't count the people who got lost while searching for the bathroom and missed a unanimous vote.

Come on, folks! I have to write something in this space. You don't know what it's like to be forced to fill each week's newspaper with articles on record-setting



budgets, record numbers of Mississippi Baptists committing to volunteer missions, record numbers of student summer missionaries, record numbers of Bibles distributed, and record numbers attending conferences and retreats.

I don't even like to use the word "record" any longer.

Just know that as long as you Mississippi Baptists continue to get along like members of God's family, set impossible goals and then meet every one of them, and otherwise conduct yourselves like followers of Christ, it's going to be mighty hard for me to write a decent, hard-hitting editorial.

I only ask that if you're going to continue to behave in this way, that you don't hold it against me when it's time for my annual job evaluation.

Thank you.

## GUEST OPINION:



### Plan now for the millennium

By J. Clark Hensley,  
executive director emeritus

Miss. Baptist Christian Action Commission

Some people are being swayed into a frenzy by secular interests seeking to make a tremendous profit over the year 2000. Others are harboring fears of chaos over the possibility of Y2K computer breakdown. The millennium — what will it mean?

The word "millennium" means 1000 years, so we are looking toward Millennium 2000 — two thousand years from the birth of Christ, the benchmark of B.C.-A.D. on the Gregorian calendar, the one used by most persons in the western world. Others may use the Hebrew or the Islamic calendars.

Many Christian groups also use the Church calendar with Advent, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, etc., added in. When we look at a calendar, date correspondence, write a check or sign a contract, we acknowledge the birth of Christ, perhaps in ignorance or never giving it a thought.

The millennium brings to Christians a once-in-a-365,000-day opportunity for an extraordinary celebration, or to have two Christmas observances in this most unusual point in time.

As January 2000 approaches, we will make our choices as to how we will celebrate. There are

those who hold a concept of the millennium who anticipate the Second Coming of Christ with the second millennium.

The millennium idea has raised many questions and divided opinions within the body of believers. Some have all the answers and have programmed the Second Coming with charts.

Others, who believe devoutly in the Second Coming, say Christ may return before January 2000 or he may tarry another 1000 years or more. They report that Jesus said only the Father knows the time. They say our place is not to speculate but to serve in readiness for the time "when he shall appear." Among Christian groups, the position one holds generally is

not considered a litmus test for fellowship, for to most of the Christian world the Second Advent is a "blessed hope."

Others will face Y2000 concentrating on being prepared for the possible chaos from a breakdown in the computer systems that may paralyze many facets of our society.

Perhaps more people will intensify their plans for participation in New Year's eve revelry while others will only plan to observe the traditional watching of the Times Square countdown at midnight.

Yet others will form or be in a party to observe this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to remember and relate what they were doing on New Year's Eve 2000.

Is it too much to expect that

a large number will be in the millennium minority, who will make deliberate preparation for a celebrative, worshipful observance of this rare second "Christmas Day?"

Will some church groups plan Watch Night with family fun activities in early evening, culminating in a worship and prayer service before midnight?

Will other families plan a "something special millennium lifetime event" to emphasize what they are attempting to live out in their home, church, and community? Could it be that some families will prefer to spend the eve of Y2K at home with celebrative activities and conservation?

This could be an opportunity to give some time to the review of family history, traditions, and their family values. Perhaps together they could develop a special millennial project or plan some out-of-the-ordinary service to commemorate the experience.

Hensley and his wife Margaret are retired and living in Clinton. Their book, *Behaving at Home, Living and Teaching Family Values*, 1978 (revised) has recently been released.



# 261 decisions launch S. American campaign

USHUAIA, Argentina (BP) — On a windswept hill overlooking Ushuaia, Argentina, the world's southernmost city, a team of Baptist missionaries and pastors gathered to pray at a monument to pioneer missionary Allen Gardiner.

Inspired by a vision of multitudes coming to Christ in the

region, their petitions launched a series of prayer walks, visitation, and evangelistic rallies across Patagonia, the vast southern region of South America, whose 800,000 residents are less than 3% born-again believers.

In two weeks, churches and mission points in Argentina and Chile saw 261 people accept Christ.

"We are taking up Gardiner's mantle," said Moises Riffo, pastor of First Church in Rio Grande, the principal Baptist church on the largest island of the Tierra del Fuego Archipelago.

Riffo, who grew up near Temuco in Chile, said stories of Gardiner's work with the indigenous peoples of Tierra del Fuego, which he heard as a Royal Ambassador, first interested him in coming to the region. Gardiner, an Anglican missionary, worked in Tierra del Fuego from 1842 until he died of cold and starvation in 1851.

The Ushuaia campaign, under the theme "Hay Vida en Jesus" ("There is life in Jesus"), was the first in a series that eventually will cover Argentina.

Baptists in other South American countries are conducting similar campaigns under

the same theme.

Some 116 of the decisions were made in visitation and meetings of the Rio Grande church. The church has 26 cell groups in Rio Grande, a city of 50,000 people. It sponsors the Baptist work in Ushuaia, which is only 700 miles from Antarctica.

Pastor Riffo, along with a team of five others, worked the second week of the campaign in Comodoro Rivadavia, the largest city in Patagonia and far north of Tierra del Fuego and 70 persons accepted Christ.

"The vision of a Patagonia given over to Christ is possible," he said. "The ends of the earth do indeed belong to the Lord."

At the Rio Grande church, pastor Irvin H. Acree of Poquoson, Va., preached. Acree served as an International Mission Board (IMB) missionary in Uruguay from 1966-85.

He told of counseling a couple whose marriage was endangered by the husband's infidelity. "The husband admitted his infidelity and she said she could never forgive him. I was

able to share with them about Christ's ability to forgive us when we sincerely repent and his power to help us build a new life out of the ashes of the old," Acree said.

The Patagonia-Austral evangelism team led by IMB missionary Richard DeLeon organized the campaign. IMB missionary Grady Milstead and pastor Jaime Sepulveda preached and spoke on the radio in Porvenir, on the Chilean side of Tierra del Fuego. IMB missionary Dennis Meilstrup preached in Punta Arenas, Chile.

Hermosinia Zapata, wife of the pastor of Emanuel Baptist Church in Punta Arenas, organized the Baptist women of Punta Arenas to prepare for the crusade.



HE GAVE HIS LIFE — Christians commemorate the life of pioneer Argentina missionary Allen Gardiner at a memorial marker erected in his honor in Ushuaia, Argentina. Gardiner, an Anglican missionary, worked in southern Argentina from 1842 until he died of cold and starvation in 1851. (From left) Southern Baptist missionary Karen DeLeon, volunteer Irvin Acree, new Argentine Christian Mario Conde, Baptist pastor Moises Riffo, and missionary Richard DeLeon. (BP photo by Denise McGill)

## Pastors' Conf. to start later

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The Pastors' Conference preceding the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) will begin this year on Sunday evening, rather than the traditional Sunday afternoon, conference President Jerry Sutton has announced. The Pastors' Conference will be June 11-12, 2000, in Orlando, Fla., preceding the June 13-14 SBC annual meeting.

"In the past, many pastors could not attend the first session because of responsibilities at their churches," Sutton, pastor of Two Rivers Church, Nashville, Tenn., said. "Starting in the evening will allow those pastors to attend their churches in the morning and make the first session in Orlando."

The theme of the Pastors' Conference will be "Partners in the Harvest," reflecting the year-long celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' giving channel for national and international missions and ministries.

The opening session Sunday evening will have as its theme, "Harvest in My Personal Life," featuring two former SBC presidents, Jim Henry, pastor of First Church, Orlando, and Jerry Vines, co-pastor of First Church, Jacksonville, Fla., along with Orlando evangelist Jay Strack and Hayes Wicker, pastor of First Church, Naples, Fla.

Inviting Orlando-area churches to the Sunday evening session, Sutton noted that the messages "will touch the hearts of the people of Orlando and the people throughout our nation. We live in a day of incredible harvest. Harvest implies fruitfulness and it implies that God is actively involved not only in us but through us."



FISHERS OF WOMEN — About once a month, members of First Baptist Church of Rio Grande, Argentina, go on a "fishing trip," in which they conduct street surveys that lead to opportunities to share Christ. On this afternoon, Silvia Cristiano (center) and Sara Lopez (right) lead a woman to Christ. Fifty-eight people accepted Christ that day. (BP photo by Denise McGill)

## Looking back

### 10 years ago

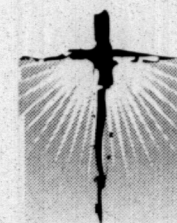
In its first year of existence, the George County Baptist Food Bank, a ministry of George Association, gives food for a week's worth of meals for a family of four to approximately 300 families. That equals \$17,000 worth of groceries. Unemployment in the county is at 18-20%.

### 20 years ago

The new HOPE Class (Help Others Practice English) at 38th Ave. Church, Hattiesburg, helps 96 students from 18 countries learn English. The students were attending the English Language Institute at the University of Southern Mississippi for eight weeks.

### 50 years ago

Sixty two students make public decisions for Christ at the state Baptist Student Union convention at Mississippi College in Clinton. The over 600 students registered for the annual meeting elect Mills Rogers, a student at Delta State College in Cleveland, as the president for the coming year.



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THE  
SECOND  
FRONT PAGE

THE BAPTIST  
*Record*

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# IMB partners with Rankin missions group

By Carl M. White  
Associate Editor

Larry Cox, regional leader for the Northern Africa and Middle East (NAME) region of the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention, has entered into an agreement with Lannie Wilbourn, head of the International Association for Multiminity Missions, Inc. (IAMM), a Rankin County-based missions organization.

The new agreement is part of IMB's efforts to mobilize volunteers from across the Southern Baptist Convention into what Cox called "creative access platforms," to touch unreached people groups.

Wilbourn, former pastor of Pinelake Church, Brandon, has been involved with mission groups in Ukraine since 1992. He chartered IAMM in 1996 and works out of an office in the Rankin Association building. Rankin Association is also partnering with NAME and IAMM by providing office space and secretarial assistance.

In addition to recruiting volunteers and coordinating volunteer trips into NAME, IAMM will help in nurturing prospects for long-term service, Cox says.

Also, Wilbourn and IAMM are being asked by the IMB Volunteers in Mission Department to be a pilot for the International Missions Training Institutes beginning in Spring 2000.

The agreement between the NAME region of the IMB and IAMM involves IMB directly with an association, and with an independent mission organization for the purpose of mobilizing Southern Baptists to get involved in Northern Africa and the Middle East region.

Specifically, NAME is immediately seeking volunteers for two projects: Project Northern Lights and Operation Torch.

According to Cox, Project Northern Lights is being done in cooperation with Campus Crusade for Christ and other Great Commission Christian organiza-



Cox (left) and Wilbourn

tions, to put Christian literature and the Jesus Video in the hands of the millions of North Africans who live in Europe.

For instance, Cox pointed out, there are four million North Africans in France. Many of these have a month of vacation a year and they frequently return to countries where traditional missionaries cannot live.

Cox is looking for volunteers to pass out Bibles and the Jesus Video to vacationers as they depart European ports for North Africa.

Operation Torch is seeking to put one thousand volunteers into North Africa over the next two years, Cox said.

Referring to the plan to liberate North Africa from the Nazis during World War II, Cox said IMB is calling for the GI Generation to pass the torch of responsibility to the Generation Xers and bring spiritual liberation to North Africa.

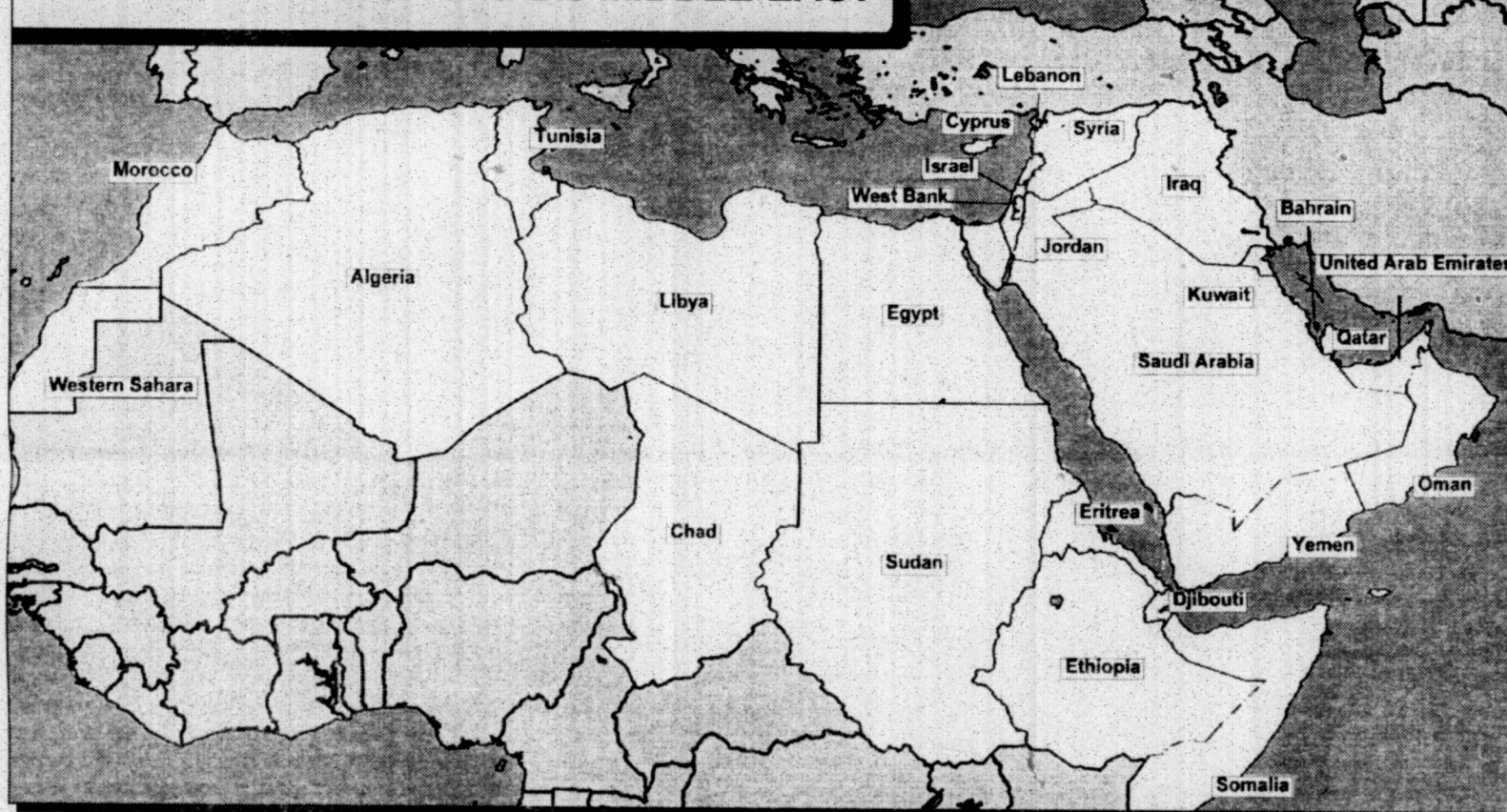
Cox referred to North Africa as "the land of the vanished church," because prior to Islamic invasions of the seventh century, North Africa was filled with vibrant New Testament churches.

"The last frontier is the first frontier," Cox said, referring to the fact that North Africa was one of the first missions areas of the church, and is now part of the area of the world identified by IMB as the 10/40 window, where most of the world's unreached people groups are located.

Operation Torch seeks to put volunteers in North Africa to reclaim it for Christ, Cox said.

For more information, contact Wilbourn at P. O. Box 142, Brandon, MS 39043-0142. Telephone: (601) 825-5972. E-mail: lwilbourn@aol.com.

## NORTHERN AFRICA and the MIDDLE EAST



## New 'Operation Torch' getting underway in Africa

LONDON (Special) — Some 50 years ago many Mississippi Baptists went to war to liberate North Africa. By 1943, U.S. forces had defeated fascist forces in a mighty effort called "Operation Torch."

Now those same Mississippi Baptists are being asked to enlist again in a new "Operation Torch." But this current drive is intended to liberate North Africa barriers which keep people there from knowing salvation in Jesus Christ.

Southern Baptist workers assigned to North Africa started this new Operation Torch to enlist World War II generation Southern Baptists to return to this earlier conflict and help them in the current battle for souls.

The hope is that these GI Generation Southern Baptists will "pass the torch" of responsibility to their children and grandchildren — and even

accompany the younger generations to North Africa and make the spiritual liberation of North Africa a personal commitment. Those former GIs can show younger family members and colleagues where they fought in earlier days for political freedoms — and see what the present spiritual needs are.

Operation Torch's goal is to send more than 1,000 Southern Baptists — many from Mississippi — into the North African region to pray intensely and directly on location that the gospel can prevail in North African lands.

Most North Africans never have a chance to hear the gospel because of the traditional barriers of religion, culture and fear.

Southern Baptists are assigning new workers to North Africa every month now. These committed workers are being asked to figure out how to

share the gospel with scores of unreached people groups in countries like Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt.

It seems like an impossible battle to win, but victories are being seen daily. For example, a church planting movement has begun among one people group in Algeria and new churches have sprung up in many places there.

To further this kind of response, Southern Baptist personnel want to bring small groups of six- to eight-member teams to North Africa, guided by one of the workers.

Each trip will last around 10 days. Activities will vary, but every team will spend time praying for the targeted people group. Some volunteers will get to distribute gospel literature or Bibles.

One Southern Baptist worker in North Africa, born after

World War II, said he admires the "can-do, whatever-it-takes" attitude which helped the GI generation win World War II.

"Today we need that same kind of attitude to help us in this battle for the spiritual liberation of North Africa," he said.

While conditions vary, many Northern Africa countries have a sufficient tourism infrastructure that assures foreign visitors will have a reasonable degree of comfort and safety, workers say.

Mississippi Baptists or church leaders who want more information on Operation Torch and liberating North Africa may contact Lannie Wilbourn by e-mail, lwilbourn@aol.com, or Gerry Volkart at gerry.volkart@imb.org or by calling toll-free (800) 999-3113.

Also, more information is on the Operation Torch website at [www.optorch.com](http://www.optorch.com).



# 'Vessels' scheduled for broadcast in state

The latest issue of "Vessels - A Video Magazine" is scheduled to be shown on a number of ACTS/FamilyNet, Odyssey channels, and other cable television systems around the state November 7 - 13, and at other times, according to Farrell Blankenship, director of the Broadcast Services Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

A partial listing of the date, cable system and channel — showing time, and sponsoring churches — is listed at right. Other churches in the state with access to a cable channel and willing to broadcast "Vessels" should contact the Broadcast Services Department. Copies of "Vessels" in 3/4 inch, S-VHS, and other formats are available for loan.

Copies of "Vessels" are also available at associational offices or from the Broadcast Services Department for use in the local church.

Blankenship requests that individuals viewing "Vessels" on television contact Broadcast Services (to report when and where it is shown) at P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone 292-3378, or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651.

CITY	DATE	TIME	CABLE CHANNEL
Brandon FBC	Nov. 7	10:30 a.m.	Rankin Co. Cable Channel 35
Bruce FBC	Nov. 10 Nov. 14	7:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Cable One, Channel 2 WO7BN LPTV, Channel 7
Calhoun City FBC	Nov. 9	7:00 p.m.	Galaxy Cablevision Channel 27
Greenville FBC	Nov. 11 Nov. 11	11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	TCA Cable TV Channel 98 or 60
Hattiesburg FBC	Nov. 7 Nov. 10 Nov. 12	6:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m. 11:00 a.m.	Comcast Cable Channel 6
Kosciusko FBC	Nov. 7 Nov. 7	5:30 p.m. 9:15 a.m.	Northland Cable Channel 2
Poplarville FBC	TBA	TBA and replays	Galaxy Cablevision Channel 39

## PAIN FOR PAYNE

You did not even have to be a casual observer of golf in order to be moved last week by the circumstances surrounding the death of Payne Stewart. In the middle of the day the word began to spread, not only across the nation but also around the world, that a plane was flying northward across America with no one apparently at the controls. Initial word was that it appeared the pilot had either suffered a heart attack or stroke, or in some way was incapacitated and the people who were on board were unaware of the circumstances. Military chase planes were following the aircraft trying to determine what the problem was and to notify the people on board.

As additional bits of information were released, it seemed as though no one on board was conscious and possibly no one was still alive. The drama continued to unfold as the plane flew over a thousand miles off course. One media report said there was a famous golfer on board, and at that time we did not know that it was Payne



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Stewart. As the events unfolded, millions waited for the next news update, hoping and wondering about those on board this phantom jet.

The situation was so bizarre that it seemed some Hollywood scriptwriter must have created it. Minutes turned into hours as the aircraft moved northward over the heartland of America headed toward Canada. Then the final word came: the Lear jet had run out of fuel and crashed in South Dakota, killing all six passengers. The investigation is far from over, but it is clear that something unusual and catastrophic took place on board and Payne Stewart, along with five friends, had concluded their final flight.

On board was the pilot, co-pilot, two sports agents, a golf-

course designer, and one of the world's most recognizable golf heroes named Payne Stewart. For many different reasons and in a variety of ways, millions felt the pain of this loss. There are lessons we can learn from this tragedy:

◆ **The Reality that Life is Brief.** Payne Stewart was 42 years old, successful, gifted, fulfilled, and life was over. The Scripture is pointedly clear — life is short, like a vapor that is here and gone; like a flower that quickly withers; like a blade of grass that is cut and dries up. Yesterday is a memory and we have no assurance of tomorrow, but, *this is the day the Lord has made and we need to rejoice and be glad in it.*

◆ **The Requirements that Produce Grief.** Grief is a part of the emotional payment we make for those who have con-

tributed to our lives. There are those who come and go in life about which we feel little or nothing, but those who have contributed to life — those who live and give in life — are missed and we grieve for them. Payne Stewart gave to the sports world. His unusual, bodacious dress always caught attention and the emotional way he shared his victories allowed us to celebrate with him, but he gave more.

It is true that he earned over 11 million dollars playing golf, but it is also true that he gave. Only weeks before his death he had made a personal contribution of a half million dollars to the ministries of his church, but he had given even more. To his wife and two children, he had given of himself. The week before his death Payne was there to see his son catch a touchdown pass and they celebrated. Days after his death his young boy played another football game and caught another touchdown pass — Payne Stewart, the daddy, was missed!

This strange thing called grief is dependent not on how much you get in life, but in how much you give.

◆ **The Reminder of the Essential Need for Belief.** In editorials and in funeral messages, in eulogies and private conversations, the faith of Payne Stewart became a part of the discussion. This man had discovered that the true meaning in life was found in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In life his faith had become paramount, and in death it was precious.

Payne Stewart will be remembered for his golf, but his pastor, Jim Henry, put golf in perspective as he pointed out the two different ways to look at golf. It can stand for "Go - Out - Lost - Forever," or it can represent "God - Offers - Love - Forgiveness."

For him, and for us, it all depends on what you do with Jesus Christ. It is true, today and eternally, that we can believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved.

## Former Mobile president faces federal judge

MOBILE, Ala. (BP) — Sentencing will be Nov. 4 for the former president of the University of Mobile, Michael A. Magnoli, in a federal conviction for falsifying his 1993 federal income tax returns.

Magnoli, in pleading guilty to the charge Sept. 20, stood motionless in front of federal district Chief Judge Charles Butler with his attorney, James Brooks, near him.

"Yes, sir," Magnoli said in response to Butler's question if he was pleading guilty to the federal charge. Just over a dozen people were present in the Mobile, Ala. federal courtroom, including IRS and FBI agents and personnel from the U.S. attorney's office.

"He is a convicted felon as of today and will be so the rest of his life," said Michel Nicrosi, assistant U.S. attorney and chief of the criminal division, as she talked with the press after the session.

Magnoli and his attorney declined comment to the press.

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## NAMES IN THE NEWS



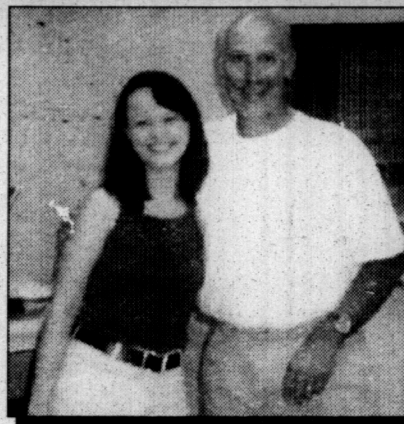
**Faustino (Tino) Trevino** of Batesville was licensed recently to the ministry by Calvary Chapel of Parchman (SBC).

A native of South Texas, Trevino has been a Christian two years and is serving as pastor of Mision Bautista Nueva Vida y Esperanza, Sunflower. It is a mission of Calvary.

After three mission trips to Mexico with Calvary, Trevino began to sense God's leadership in ministry. He assisted Pastor Joe Young in preaching at Iglesia El Calvario each Sunday evening for eight months, and also leads Spanish services at Sardis Lake Church, Batesville, where Pastor Kevin Crofford led him to Christ.

Trevino, a single parent of two children, is pictured sharing Christ with VBS children.

**Sara Wood** (left) was recently honored at a surprise party in appreciation of her dedication as past minister of music at Sunflower Church, Sunflower. She was presented a love offering by **Brian Manning** (right), deacon, during the fellowship. Wood, daughter of **Edward Wood**, pastor, and **Rebecca**, is enrolled at Mississippi College.



**Wood and Manning**

**James D. Whittington** is available for supply and interim as well as revivals and conferences. He may be reached at 519 Walker Lane, Raymond, MS 39154 or (601) 857-8021.



**Grant**

**David Grant**, son of Lucille G. Grant and the late David R. Grant, former pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, (1958-1984), received the Career of Excellence Award from LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, in a special presentation on Oct. 22. The Career of Excellence Award was established in March 1987 by LifeWay to recognize outstanding employees. Grant, senior manager, general accounting section, finance department, has been an employee of LifeWay for 20 years.

**Tommy Whaley**, pastor of Bigbee Church, Amory, will be honored on Nov. 7 for the celebration of his 30th year in the ministry. A special lunch will be held in his honor.

**Errol and Mary Simmons**, missionaries, received flowers

and plaques of appreciation from **Karl-Heinz Walter**, left, retiring general secretary of the European Baptist Federation (EBF), and **David Coffey**, right, outgoing EBF president and general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. The Simmons will return to the U.S. in 2000 after 26 years of missionary service, 14 years in Spain and 12 years in Hungary. They will retire in 2001. For the last 10 years Simmons has directed the International Baptist Lay Academy (IBLA) in Budapest, Hungary. The school was setup

by European Baptists and the International Mission Board after Eastern Europe opened with the fall of communism and Baptists across the region were desperate for theological training. More than 600 people will have studied at IBLA by the end of this fall semester. The Budapest facility will be closed and a new, similar program will be launched next year at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague, Czech Republic. The Simmons were honored at the EBF's Executive Council meeting in Hamburg, Germany, in late September, the last council meeting the couple will attend. Errol Simmons is a Louisiana native; and Mary Simmons is from Jones County, Mississippi. When they return to the U.S. next year, Simmons will teach and serve as missionary-in-residence at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.



**Walter, the Simmons, and Coffey**



**RA boys** participated in the RA race-off in Mississippi Association held Sept. 25 in Calvary Church, Smithdale. **Alton Foster** is director of missions for Mississippi Association.

### Celebration 2000 Conference

*Easthaven Baptist Church  
Brookhaven, MS*

*November 12-14, 1999*

<b>Friday, 6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Saturday, 9:30 a.m.</b>
Chris Allman, music	Bekki Smith, music
Junior Hill, speaker	Johnny Hunt, speaker
Bekki Smith, music	Chris Allman, music
Johnny Hunt, speaker	Junior Hill, speaker

<b>Saturday, 6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Sunday, 9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday, 6:30 p.m.</b>
Chris Allman, music	Bekki Smith, music	<i>Celebration Concert</i>
Rick Coram, speaker	Chris Allman, music	<i>Featuring</i>
The Perrys, music	Jamie Ragle, speaker	Bekki Smith, music
Jamie Ragle, speaker	The Perrys, music	Chris Allman, music
Bekki Smith, music	Rick Coram, speaker	The Perrys

**A conference kick-off will be held  
November 10 & 11 at 7 p.m.**

*Jeff Smith, evangelist and Bekki Smith, music*

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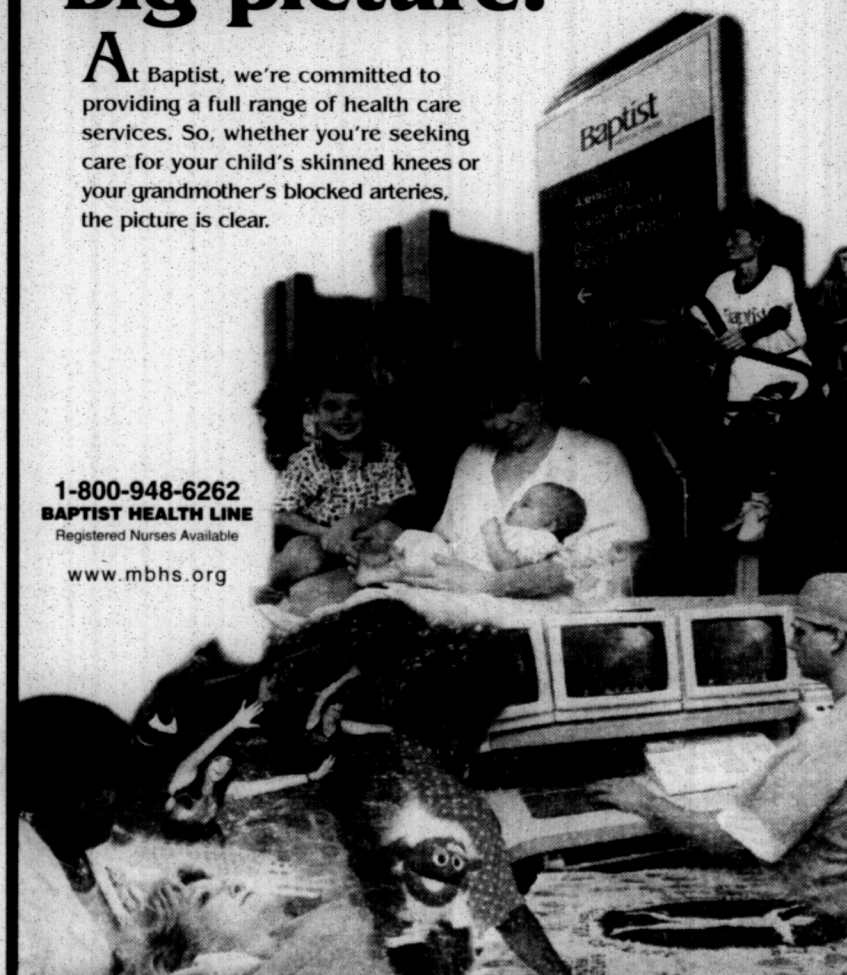
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